

REMARKS

I. Introduction

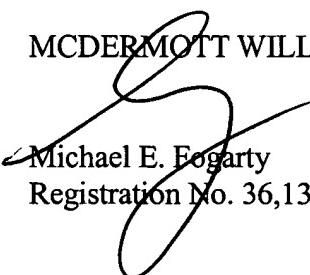
Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claim 3, and the indication of allowable subject matter recited by claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 12. In response to the Office Action mailed July 6, 2004, Applicants have rewritten claims 2, 4 and 5 into independent format. Applicants have amended the dependency of claims 6 through 11 to depend on allowed claim 3. Applicants have also canceled claim 1, without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

Should there remain any outstanding issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney below so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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